June 10, 1974

1st HALF

AGENT REPORT - [redacted], 1974

One great failure to start things off. I figured that there must be something other than gyroscopic motion, and simple Newtonian mechanics that keeps a bicycle upright at slow speeds. Gravity - some unknown X factor! So, I bought three finely balaced bicycle wheels and front forks, mounted them in three perpendicular planes (welded together), put them in the back of the truck and drove around. There was plenty of motion from the three wheels at different times (turns, stops, starts, hills) but no more than could be explained as centrifugal force from the off-center weight to the air input nipple (really well balanced wheels). This four-dimensional vehicle is now available for other POINT uses. WHAT? ($152.85)

I should have realized that we couldn't have landed precisely on the Moon if there was any glaring misunderstanding of gravity!

S.I.E.C.U.S.: a few trips to New York --- I'm on the Board now and in the past six months major changes, great success! I worked with Ted McIlvenna and Dr. Ric Chilgren and the result is half a dozen strong stands by The National sex institution encouraging masturbation, homosexuality, pornography, and all those other fun things.

FAILURE: I made a few small grants to Lydia Gomez to get the Karman Cannula cheap abortion process introduced and going in San Francisco. No visible results. Used to get regular reports. Jerry made a big grant to her. Since then I've seen her once.

Made a few scholarship grants to the National Sex Forum training program. Only one worthwhile (at Margo St. James' recomendation). Generally a waste. My own vanity trying to get others interested in sex. Most people who are interested can come up with the tuition ($50.00).

Paid Andy Alpine for several months; got: (1) the report on design consideration for sexual vibrators (good work), which was submitted to the three major sex journals for publication (POINT is public, all our information is, too). (2) tried to help Tartung Tulku a spend POINT money to get a country place. Result: heart break. The Rimpoche is a one-man operation and help is hard to give. (3) Opening the New Planet office with results to come.

GRANTS TO:

John Martinson who is a loveable, hardworking zealot involved in computer editing, publishing, and new input technologies. $500

Captain Crunch to devise free long distance calling for Senior Citizens. $500

Ella Hutch to make some Black San Francisco links with the Pan-African movements. Ella is great locally, but a little bitter. Hope for a wider prospective in her dreams. $500

Agent Report (continued)

Money to Jim Corcoran and Stanford to put the 7 Laws into the SPIRES information system. 7 Laws was originally created on punch cards. The first book in a computer, that also has hard copy available nationwide. The experimant is to see into the future when nearly all books will be in such a system. We are studying costs, storage problems, access design, but mostly how people use it. They can: design their own index, rearrange the contents, send me comments on any word or paragraph, etc. --- What will they do?

More on computers later. I've had a terminal at home since the end of January and the experiment is year-long (to find uses to justify it costs). First lesson, Tymshare, the commercial company, is too expensive. They were $95.00 for an old beat-up terminal and averaged $16.00 an hour for use. They had more Mickey Mouse hidden charges than a funeral parlor. Compared especially to Call Computer at $55.00 per month for a new portable terminal and $2.50 per hour. My average use charge and storage per month now is $35.00; a lot is my children's game playing.

Grant to Gerald O'Neill (Ph. D) to put on his New Planet conference in early May. Lots of PR fall-out. Great picture to come out of the conference: "The colonists can return to visit Earth which will have been turned into a beautiful park." $600